

Data Sheet

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| USAID Mission: | Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| Program Title: | Peace Building, Democracy and Good Governance |
| Pillar: | Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance |
| Strategic Objective: | 660-003 |
| Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: | \$1,913,000 DA; \$2,721,000 ESF |
| Prior Year Unobligated: | \$1,560,000 DA |
| Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: | \$509,000 DA; \$4,000,000 ESF |
| Year of Initial Obligation: | FY 2004 |
| Year of Final Obligation: | FY 2008 |

Summary: USAID's democracy program in the DRC promotes a successful post-conflict transition to durable peace and democratic governance during a 36-month timeframe through: technical assistance and training to the DRC's new Independent Election Commission (IEC) and political parties; support to transitional justice institutions and NGOs to protect human rights and promote access to justice at the national and community levels; technical assistance and training in conflict mitigation for citizens to rebuild their communities while reintegrating ex-combatants and displaced persons; technical assistance and training to NGOs and public authorities to combat corruption and hold government accountable for legal and policy reform; and support for media programming for civic education.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Assist in the creation and implementation of specific laws and government reforms (\$450,000 DA). USAID will focus on the development of a legal framework for elections and the DRC's new electoral system, a representative political process and political party system, and ending criminal impunity related to human rights abuses as well as economic crimes. Activities will include training for members of key independent commissions, ministries, and parliamentary committees while simultaneously engaging civil society representatives including religious institutions, private sector associations, women, minorities, and other marginalized groups. The program will further assist Congolese civil society organizations to monitor and evaluate political and economic reforms and government performance during the transition period. Principal contractors and grantees include: the Consortium for Elections and Political Processes (CEPPS, which includes the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI)), Global Rights, and a media partner to be selected through a competitive process or through existing agreements with DCHA.

Strengthen the capacity of national institutions (\$1,013,000 DA; \$2,721,000 ESF). This program will provide technical and material assistance combined with specialized training and conferences implemented by international NGOs in partnership with at least two of the five Citizens' Commissions. A particular focus will be the IEC, whose mandate is to ensure that democratic elections creating accountable government are held during a 36-month timeframe. Assistance to members of other commissions, key ministries, and parliamentary committees will be provided as the transition moves forward. ESF funds will be used to support the development of legal framework for elections and to strengthen the capacity of national institutions. Principal contractors and grantees include: CEPPS and Development Alternatives International. This assistance is complemented by that of the United Nations Observer Mission to Congo, (MONUC); the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); the European Union (EU); and bilateral donors including the British, Belgian, French, German, Dutch, Swiss, and South African governments.

Increase participation by Congolese society in the transition to improve economic and political decision-making and government accountability (\$450,000 DA; \$1,560,000 prior year DA). Two or three USAID implementing partners with a strong track record in community development, local governance, and

conflict management will work with a network of local committees and associations along the Congo River from Kinshasa to Kisangani, as well as along the eastern frontier provinces. They will provide assistance to combat corruption and help to end abuse of authority and human right violations while promoting community reconciliation and local government reform. In the longer term, these local committees will serve as elections and political process observers, and report on political party performance in the lead-up to elections. Principal contractors and grantees include the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH), Innovative Resources Management, and a media partner to be determined. This assistance is complemented by that of MONUC and UNDP.

Prior year DA will be used to support the DRC's process of national pacification, reunification, and political transition by managing conflict within and among communities in targeted provinces, mitigating its effects, and reducing the level of criminal impunity that has characterized both the conflict and the economy in the Congo for decades. Principal contractors/grantees: Global Rights, IFESH, Innovative Resources Management and Search for Common Ground.

FY 2005 Program:

USAID plans to continue its support for the transition process and newly created government institutions (\$509,000 DA; \$4,000,000 ESF). USAID anticipates that momentum during democratic governance will accelerate during the transition's 36-month time-frame as security and stability improve throughout the DRC's eleven provinces, following integration by all forces into the new national military during FY 2004. As security improves, USAID plans to expand support for programs to increase participation by Congolese civil society in the process of national reconciliation, political decentralization, and improving government accountability and transparency at the local and provincial levels. Dependent on the success of anti-corruption and human rights campaigns, USAID/DRC may make these community-based initiatives the focus of its programs by intensifying government monitoring and evaluation activities as a means of civic engagement in the lead-up to elections. Principal contractors and grantees will most likely include those used in FY 2004: CEPPS, Innovative Resources Management, and IFESH.

Performance and Results: FY 2003 results of USAID's democracy program under the prior strategy include the creation of an IEC and the promotion of political party development and citizen representation through three successful open political forums that included 10 political parties. USAID assistance improved access to justice for women, children, and other marginalized groups through support to the Strategic Lawyering Group and women's associations to provide free legal and support services. Both the IEC and the TRC were created as a result of participation by human rights activists and legal experts with USAID assistance during the Inter-Congolese Dialogue. USAID's program to combat corruption through government transparency and accountability has increased trade and commerce on the Congo River between Kinshasa and Kisangani by officially eliminating illegal points of taxation, and reducing taxation points from 24 to three by means of issuance and implementation of a Ministerial Decree on the subject.

The expected end-state of the new DRC DG program is to assist in creating a new government and political system for the DRC thus capitalizing on a remarkable opportunity for democracy and governance in the Central African region.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Democratic Republic of the Congo

| 660-003 Peace Building, Democracy and Good Governance | DA | ESF |
|---|--------|--------|
| Through September 30, 2002 | | |
| Obligations | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures | 0 | 0 |
| Unliquidated | 0 | 0 |
| Fiscal Year 2003 | | |
| Obligations | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures | 0 | 0 |
| Through September 30, 2003 | | |
| Obligations | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures | 0 | 0 |
| Unliquidated | 0 | 0 |
| Prior Year Unobligated Funds | | |
| Obligations | 1,560 | 0 |
| Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA | | |
| Obligations | 1,913 | 2,721 |
| Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004 | | |
| Obligations | 3,473 | 2,721 |
| Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA | | |
| Obligations | 509 | 4,000 |
| Future Obligations | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Est. Total Cost | 18,982 | 21,721 |